



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: Second Lieutenant Harold Haywood Brown, Second Lieutenant Robert S. Brown, First Lieutenant Nathaniel Goins, Second Lieutenant Stanley L. Harris, and Private First Class Meek G. Stalling, World War II pilots from Minnesota; and Flight Officer William B. Morgan, Second Lieutenant Kenneth O. Wofford, Flight Officer Vernon Hopson, and Second Lieutenant Joseph P. Gomer, World War II pilots who relocated to Minnesota, were members of the Tuskegee Airmen; and

WHEREAS: These men, along with other African American men and women, worked hard to overcome racial discrimination and other impediments at home and abroad, and earned the right to represent the United States of America in the fight for world freedom during World War II; and

WHEREAS: These men, and other African American military veterans, take quiet, unassuming pride in being part of history, having fought on the ground, in the air, and on sea, and in making history by overpowering racial prejudice with determination and competence — knowing that their sacrifices were of great importance to the outcome of the war; and

WHEREAS: While many who participated in World War II lost their lives, these heroic African Americans went on to demonstrate that the lessons learned in a segregated army — to persevere against all odds in order to reach a goal, to lead by example, to honor freedom — were life lessons upon which they fought to build successful post-war careers in the military and public and private sectors; and

WHEREAS: These men, and other African American military support personnel, are honored today, July 16, 2014, by the Minnesota Department of Transportation, Minnesota Wing of the Commemorative Air Force's Red Tails Squadron Project, and the State of Minnesota.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, July 16, 2014, as:

TUSKEGEE AIRMEN DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 16th day of July.


GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE